AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the Abstract, found on page 56, as follows:

A filter adaptation unit suitable for producing a set of filter coefficients is provided including an error characterization unit for characterizing the error in a filter's impulse response~~, where the set filter coefficients determining the impulse response are derived using a least squares method~~. The error characterization unit generates a set of error characterization data elements associated to a newly generated set of filter coefficients. ~~The set of error characterization data elements is generated on the basis of a first input signal and a noise signal. The first signal and the noise signal are first broken down into frequency bands. A computation for statistically characterizing the error is then applied to each frequency band, yielding an error characterization data element per frequency band.~~ A selection unit then makes a selection between ~~selects~~ one of the newly generated set of filter coefficients and an existing set of filter coefficients at least in part on the basis of their respective sets of error characterization data elements. The selected set of filter coefficients is then released in a format suitable for use by an adaptive filter.

Please amend the paragraph beginning page 41, line 19, titled "A typical interaction", as follows:

> A typical interaction will better illustrate the functioning of the filter adaptation unit 202. As shown in the flow diagram of figure 7, at step 600 samples of signal Z 102 and signal X 104 are received by the coefficient adaptation unit 100. At step 602, the samples are processed at least in part on the basis of a least squares method to generate a set of filter coefficients Hnew 206. At step 604, the new set of filter coefficients Hnew 206 is applied by a filter simulation unit mimicking the behavior of filter 110 to signal Z 102 to obtained a filtered version of signal Z 102, namely signal R 401 (figure 4). At step 606, signal R 401 is subtracted from signal [[Z]] X 104 to obtain signal W 470. At step 608, signal Z 102 and signal W 470 are divided on a spectral basis into t/N sets of K frequency bands. At step 610, a standard deviation of the error function is effected on the basis of signal Z 102 and signal W 470 is effected on a per frequency band basis for each frequency band in the set of frequency bands. If the bands are narrow, a reasonable approximation can be made that, for a given signal, the signal in each band is white. Therefore the standard deviation computation can be expressed as follows: